

Montana Transportation Commission
Minutes
January 4, 2008

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The Montana Transportation Commission met via conference call on January 4, 2008 the meeting was called to order by Commissioner Espy at 8:30 am with the following participants:

Nancy Espy, Commissioner (District 4)
Rick Griffith, Commissioner (District 2)
Barb Skelton, Commissioner (District 5)
Kevin Howlett, Commissioner (District 1)
D. Winterburn, Commissioner (District 3)
Lori Ryan, MDT
Jim Lynch, Director
Jim Currie, Deputy Director
Loran Frazier, MDT
Tim Reardon, MDT
Mike Duman, Federal Highways

1) Access Control, Mountain View Meadows:

Loran Frazier presented the Amend Access Control Resolution for MDT Project FF-DP 77(20), East Helena-East & West.

Background:

MDT requests Transportation Commission approval to amend the Access Control Resolution for MDT project FF-DP 77(20), East Helena-East & West, to allow one additional public access at Station 115+67.79 on US 12. This amendment petition has been prompted by R and D Partners, a private developer, for access to the Mountain View Meadows Subdivision located in Helena, MT. For safety and operations, both MDT and the City of Helena have agreed that this access to US 12 should be at Station 115+67.79.

In addition to providing access to this development, District and Headquarters review staff have determined that this proposed access location will also serve as the future connection point between US 12 and the South Helena Interchange on I -15 (Crossroads Street on the attached map).

If approved, MDT will require the developer to construct Crossroads Street through their property and install a traffic control signal on US 12, when warranted and justified. All construction will be to MDT standards and fully funded by R&D Partners.

Initially, Crossroads Street will be maintained by the City of Helena. Once the connection to the South Interchange is complete, MDT will assume maintenance authority through a system action. MDT has coordinated with the City of Helena throughout the review of this proposal to ensure MDT engineering standards, right of way requirements, and both short and long term maintenance responsibilities are addressed.

Summary:

MDT requests Transportation Commission approval to amend the Access Control Resolution for MDT project FF-DP 77(20), East Helena-East & West, to allow one additional public access at Station 115+67.79 on US 12. The intent of allowing access at this location is to provide the subdivision with signalized access to US 12 and to ensure this approach location will become the future location of the connection route to the South Helena Interchange on I - 15.

Staff recommendations:

Staff recommends the Commission approve amending the Access Control Resolution for MDT project FF-DP 77(20), East Helena-East & West, to allow an additional public access at Station 115+67.79 on US 12.

In addition, staff also needs to inform the Commission the intersection of Crossroads Street/US 12 and Crossroads Street connection route will be constructed to MDT standards through privately funded projects by the developer.

If approved, staff will provide the amendment resolution language for Commission signature at the next scheduled Commission Meeting. .

Discussion: Commissioner Griffith ask if the issue with the additional property owners had been resolved? Frazier stated that the department is continuing to work with additional land owners for development of the road to the interchange.

Commission action:

Commissioner Howlett moved to approve the staff recommendation and approve amending the Access Control Resolution for MDT project FF-DP 77(20), East Helena-East & West, to allow an additional public access at Station 115+67.79 on US 12.

2) Commission Discussion:

Regular Meeting –February 28, 2008

Conference Call –February 4, 2008

The call concluded at 8:40 am.

Nancy Espy, Chair
Montana Department of Transportation

Jim Lynch, Director
Montana Transportation Commission

Lori Ryan, Secretary
Montana Transportation Commission